

## Prospecting for our community's gold nuggets

Terry Clayton, about whom you will read more on page three, was unknown to us until this spring. Making his way as an artist, he quietly practiced his craft in the University of Kentucky metalwork studio in Lexington. He came to our attention when we were advised that he was one of a select few that would have his sculpture be on permanent display on the University of Kentucky (UK) campus.

We reached out to Terry and learned more about this artist and found him to be a gold nugget in the deaf and hard of hearing community!! In the conversation we told Terry, a Logan County native, about the Elizabeth “Cookie” Williams Visual Artist Studio at DeaFestival Kentucky and how he should come and show off his work, not just for his fellow artists, but as an example to young deaf and hard of hearing people, kids who have looked at a painting, a sculpture or a piece of stained glass and say: “Yeah, I’d like to do that someday.”

We are excited to feature Terry at our 10th production of DeaFestival since 1996. For the first time, he is going to interact with other deaf and hard of hearing artists, discuss De’Via art, share philosophies, trade stories and share the creative inspiration of his art. What’s more, he was one of a handful of young deaf professionals featured in a KCDHH online video highlighting the city of Louisville as a place to visit during the National Association of the Deaf (NAD) conference and DeaFestival.

**Written by**  
**Virginia L.**  
**Moore**  
**KCDHH**  
**Executive**  
**Director**

He was already great. Now, he’s sharing his talent with a wider community. Terry is just one of many gold nuggets I know exists out there in Kentucky’s deaf and hard of hearing community. Like the gold prospectors of days gone by, we celebrate when we find them.

Discovering these unique people is one of the many things that DeaFestival is all about as we educate the general population about the abilities and talents of the deaf and hard of hearing community. We encourage you to look at Terry’s art, feel Sean Forbes’ rhythmic beats, see Wawa Snipe’s popping dance moves, move to the beat of T.L. Forsberg’s songs, and see them as role models to something you can do or know this is something your friend, child or neighbor *can* achieve.

Our gold nuggets in the deaf and hard of hearing community — folks who have amazing drive, talent and energy, but who have thus far gone undiscovered — are important to us. When they are found, they shine and through their labor they may compel the rest of society to take a closer look at our culture, concerns, and what we feel is important to us.

For all the fun that DeaFestival is (and it truly is a blast!), keep this little “nugget” in the back of your mind. Everyone you see on July 7 — singers, rappers, storytellers, comedians, dancers and visual artists — started out as an undiscovered gold nugget, flowing through a stream, working to reach a goal, with a burning instinct to succeed.

My wish is this. If you *are* one of those gold nuggets, let yourself shine. You owe it to yourself to be the best you can be and you owe the deaf and hard of hearing community to be a good example. If you *know* one of those gold nuggets, get

*Continued on Page 2*

## Commission Members

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### David Bayersdorfer

Alexander Graham Bell Association  
Representative

### Susan Brown

Kentucky Speech-Language  
Hearing Representative

### Becky Bush

Parent Representative

### Rebecca Crawford

AARP Representative

### Marilyn Fenwick

Hearing Loss Association of America  
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### Patricia Freeman

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### Barbie Harris

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### Amy Hatzel

Kentucky Registry of Interpreters for  
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President of Kentucky Association of  
the Deaf

## Staff HOTSPOT: Rachel Rodgers



*STAFF HOTSPOT...is a new feature providing you a face to go with the name of the individual who serves you in the Commonwealth.*

Your staff members at the Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing work tirelessly to assure you receive accessible services to meet your needs. Our feature starts with the Interpreter Referral Specialist, Rachel Rodgers, who works to assure interpreting services are appropriate and state agencies provide this service as required. Rachel is exceptional at her job. Lately, there has been a little more of Rachel

to love, with the pending arrival of a baby daughter in August.

With the added duties of carrying a future DeaFestival volunteer, Rachel has been the driving force behind the planning and execution of DeaFestival Kentucky 2012! She is a valuable resource to each staff member here at the agency, always knowing who to email or call, to address the many questions we have about DeaFestival.

In addition to being the fire that keeps the DeaFestival boilers stoked, she also is the person that oversees the National Interpreter Certification testing here at the NIC supersite. If you're coming to Frankfort to be tested, you want to be greeted by someone as sincere and genuine as Rachel.

She has worked at KCDHH since August 2006. She is a child of deaf adults (CODA) and a graduate of the University of Louisville's Interpreter Training Program, and is, herself, a very skilled and artful interpreter. She regularly is called on to interpret – in sign and voice – at Commission meetings as well as other agency programs. We salute future mommy Rachel Rodgers, a valuable member of our KCDHH family and thank her for her tireless work to promote the betterment of the community as a whole.

## Be a shining example

*Continued from front*

them out of the dark and into the light. Encourage them to be seen, to share their gift with not just the deaf and hard of hearing population, but with everybody.

### Commission Staff

**Virginia Moore, Executive Director**

Anita Dowd, Executive Staff Advisor

Rowena Holloway, Internal Policy Analyst III

Katie Huber, Interpreter I

Emily Kimbell, Information Program Coordinator

Rachel Morgan, Executive Staff Interpreter

Tom Musgrave, Information Office Supervisor

Rachel Payne, Interpreter Referral Specialist

Jim Rivard, Network Analyst I

Opeoluwa Sotonwa, Information Program Coordinator

Wilma Wright, Administrative Specialist II

Cole Zulauf, Program Coordinator

Vacant, Executive Secretary



# UK artist shines on campus

Sculptor Terry Clayton of Logan County began his collegiate career intent on becoming a weightlifting coach. And although he is still as physically fit as he was during his days as a football player for the University of Kentucky, his path has taken a different direction.

Clayton, who has been deaf since he was 5, graduated UK in 2007 with a degree in kinesiology, but returned to the university, pursuing a bachelor's degree in fine arts. In metal sculpture, he found an art medium that allowed him to communicate naturally.

"I'm a muscle man," he says. "Muscle requires you to do metal work. I just love working with metal."

Clayton was honored recently by having his sculpture, titled "Cherished," placed on permanent display on the University of Kentucky campus. The work is an abstract piece, depicting a mother cradling a baby child. In his own description of his work, Clayton wrote that his mother always let him know how precious he was to her and she

would not let people mistreat him because of his deafness.

"She gave me unconditional love and protection as I was growing up," he wrote on the description that appears alongside his work. "I would hope that any parent with a disabled child would cherish them as much as my mother did me."

Clayton is the first deaf student at UK to have his work displayed in a permanent public setting. Its home is outside the student disability services office near the student center. He was one of three other UK art students whose work was accorded the honor of being displayed on campus.

In addition to his art accolades, Clayton was honored in 2007 as the inaugural winner of the Rudy Award. The award, created by famous Notre Dame walk-on Daniel "Rudy" Ruettiger, recognizes "Character, Courage, Contribution and Commitment."

Much of Clayton's artwork uses his deafness as a theme. One piece depicts a hummingbird hovering over an open flower, its beak pointing inside the petals. Clayton said it was evocative of the cotton that was inserted into his ear as a child to assess his auditory organs.

"When I saw that piece, I thought, 'he's finally made his turn; he's on track now. He's found his voice,'" said Garry Bibbs, a professor in the UK art department.

Bibbs has been impressed with Clayton's ability to insert the theme of deafness into his work in a subtle way.

"Conceptually what he's been able to do is take technical methods and put that into a composition that expresses ideas about deaf culture," Bibbs said. "He's doing it in a very unique way. He's not being so literal about being deaf. His compositions talk to the idea of silence and sound, pieces that emulate parts of the ear, and the ear organs themselves are extremely sculptural."

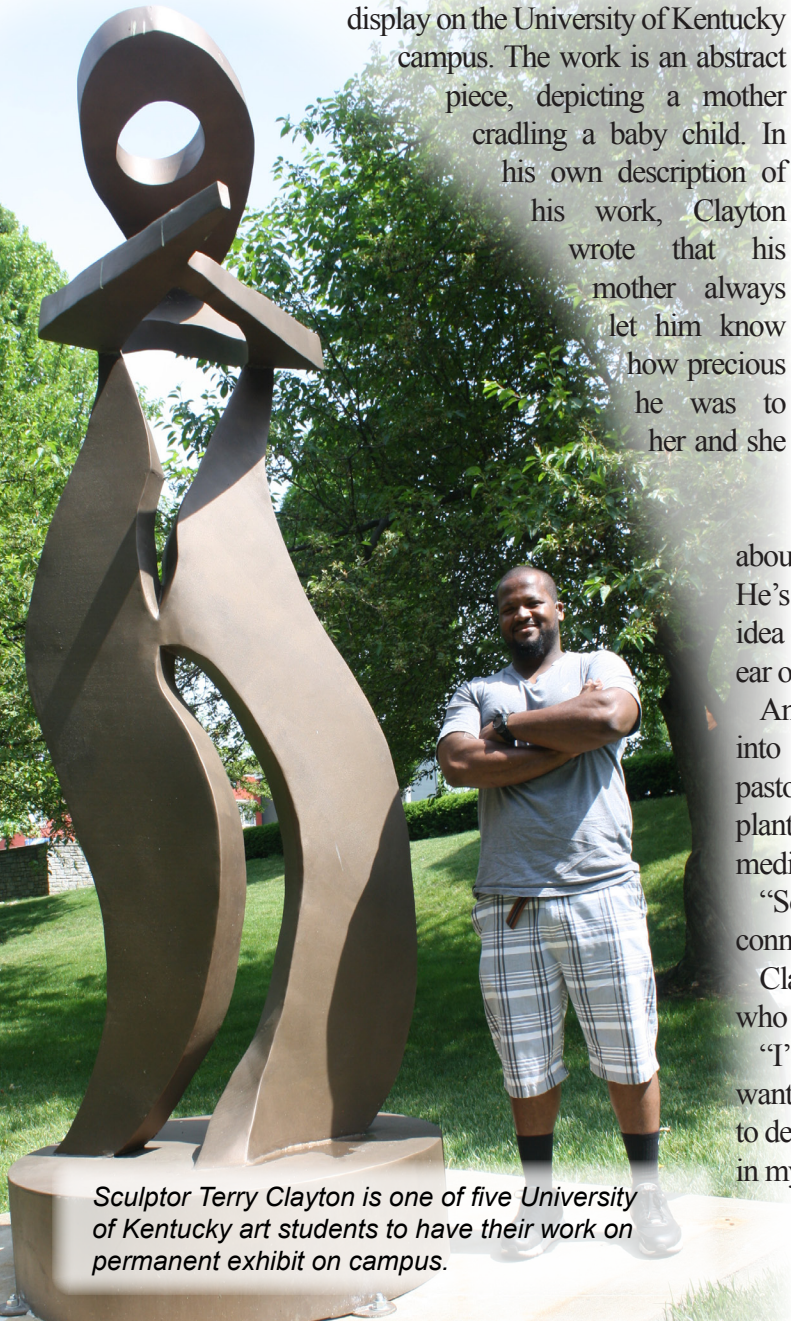
Another example of Clayton's subtlety is his use of metal shaped into plants in his pieces. The pieces themselves have a silent and pastoral beauty all their own, but there is a deeper meaning to the plants he chooses: they are all plants that can be converted into medicine for the ear.

"Some of my work is abstract and some isn't, but it is always connected to the concept of deafness," he said.

Clayton is cognizant of his position as a role model to deaf children who want to be artists or athletes.

"I'm deaf and I'd never seen a deaf football player," he said. "I just wanted to be equal to the hearing players. I want to be a good example to deaf children so that they can maybe follow the road I took, follow in my footsteps."

*Sculptor Terry Clayton is one of five University of Kentucky art students to have their work on permanent exhibit on campus.*





# DeaFestival-Kentucky

# 2

**Opening Ceremonies**  
**11:00 am - Noon**

**Cascade Ballroom**



**Children's Program**  
**10:00 am - 3:00 pm**

**Fourth Street**

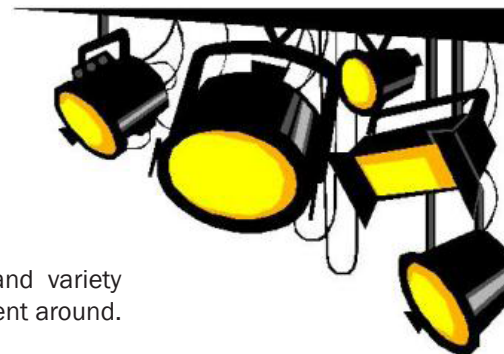
It's fun for the whole family! Bring your kids to the DeaFestival Children's Program and join emcee and performer Peter Cook for Pinocchio's Adventures with Fables, featuring storytelling, comedy, magic, puppets, singing and dancing.

**Peter Cook**  
**Sean Forbes**  
**Crom Saunders**  
**Tammy Jo Ellis**  
**Mindy Moore**

**Levi & Clay — the Anderson Twins**  
**Theron Parker**  
**Travis Zornoza**  
**Kellie Martin**  
**Matthew "Magic" Morgan & Liliana Morgan**

**SpotLights**  
**Noon - 4:50 pm**

**Cascade Ballroom**



Variety is on parade under the SpotLights. Let emcee and variety performer Pinky Aiello introduce you to some of the best talent around. Come check it out.

**Sean Forbes**  
**Pinky Aiello**  
**Warren "Wa Wa" Snipe**  
**Tammy Jo Ellis**  
**Levi & Clay — the Anderson Twins**  
**T. L. Forsberg**  
**Wild Zappers**

**Ed "Chevy" Corey**  
**Bob Hilterman**  
**Peter Cook**  
**Crom Saunders**  
**Matthew "Magic" Morgan & Liliana Morgan**  
**Antoine Hunter Urban Jazz**



**Visit us on the web...**

# July 7 in Louisville!

**Jam Tent**  
**7:00 pm - 9:30 pm**

**Fourth Street**



As the sun goes down on the 2012 DeaFestival, the Jam Tent goes up and underneath it, you'll find the most rockin' acts in show business. Let's make some noise with emcee and performer Mindy Moore!

**Mindy Moore**  
**Warren "Wa Wa" Snipe**  
**Sean Forbes**  
**Beethoven's Nightmare**  
**Wild Zappers**  
**T. L. Forsberg**  
**Tristan Thunderbolt**



**Iris Aranda**  
**Balard Arnaud**  
**Chuck Baird Foundation**  
**Fred Beam**  
**Melody Bock-Freeman**  
**David Call**  
**Uriy Chernukha**  
**Connie Clanton**  
**Terry Clayton**  
**Jack Cochran**

**Jana Dahl**  
**Matt Daigle**  
**Susan Duper**  
**Barbie Harris**  
**Jennifer Harris**  
**Sammie Hudson**  
**Kids Korner**  
**Ellen Mansfield**  
**Kellie Martin**  
**Tony McGregor**

**Warren Miller**  
**Dick Moore**  
**Mindy Moore**  
**Jeremy Quiroga**  
**Nancy Rourke**  
**Ann Silver**  
**Kelly Simpson**  
**Stefrose**  
**Sriharsha Sulka**  
**Bernice Wood**

## Thanks, y'all!

The Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Knowledge Center on Deafness wish to thank the City of Louisville and the Convention and Visitors Bureau for their continued hospitality in hosting this wonderful event. This is our 10th production of DeaFestival since 1996 and the fifth in the River City, and Louisville always puts its best foot forward in making our visitors, artists and performers feel welcomed. A big "thank you" also to our DeaFestival volunteers. Without them, this celebration of deaf culture in Kentucky would just be ideas on paper. Our volunteers really help DeaFestival come alive and we could not do this without you!



**www.deafestival.org**



# Bridging the communication gap

Laura Kogut has been a Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART) provider for deaf and hard of hearing people in Kentucky for about 20 years and in that time she said she has seen the service evolve.

"I think that as (deaf and hard of hearing people) become more aware that the service is available, the demand has grown," she said. "I think it's been an education process. As people realize how helpful it is and that they are allowed to request it, they take advantage of it."

Kogut is the regular CART provider for KCDHH quarterly commission meetings. She also has captioned training meetings, college classes, and commercial product conventions, like Mary Kay cosmetics. And because of modern communications technology, she can caption a meeting in Pikeville from her home in LaGrange.

"You're not limited. As long as you have Internet access and an audio feed, a captioner can do it."

Kogut, who owns Louisville-based McLendon-Kogut Reporting Service, has been a court and litigation reporter since 1978. She became a CART provider in the early 1990s at the urging of advocate and former KCDHH commissioner Betty Timon, who began losing her hearing when she was in her mid-30s.

"I had never considered doing captioning," she said. "Betty told her story about how captioning changed her life."

Timon was attending a meeting of court reporters and asked for volunteers among them to be captioners for the deaf and hard of hearing community.

"She moved me," Kogut said. "I talked to her and

volunteered. The next thing I knew I had an assignment."

Kogut's experience as a court reporter made adding the skill set for captioning much easier she said and the modern training programs teach both careers simultaneously, with students choosing to specialize in either court reporting or captioning toward the end of their training.

"I would never have made the leap to (captioning) if I had not had years of reporting to build my skills, my dictionary," she said.

Among the obstacles Kogut has to overcome are regional accents, which are as unique as each individual.

"It's very difficult, but I've found if you work with someone often, you determine what those sounds mean," she said. "You get used to the way they don't pronounce or mispronounce an 'r,' for example. It's not perfect, but the more familiar you are with someone, the easier it is to report."

There are other things that make captioners' jobs easier, she said.

"Audio is critical because we do some things remotely. It's crucial to have strong audio feed," she said. "We also need to be provided information in advance. You have to program people's names."

She also said it is important to convey the size of the event that needs to be captioned so that the caption provider can supply the ideal captioner.

"If you have a new person captioning in a big meeting, it's probably not a good fit."


She also said her relationships among the deaf and hard of hearing population she serves are more personal than in her court reporting.

"I don't get hugs from people right before I take down their deposition," she said.

Her skills have not gone unnoticed by the deaf and hard of hearing community. Kogut was presented the Bardstown Hearing Loss Association of America chapter's Pioneer Award for her contributions to accessibility.

During the 51st National Association of the Deaf biennial conference in Louisville, Kogut will caption the Louisville Bats baseball game on July 3, the first ever captioning of a baseball game by the Bats team.

For information on captioning services, visit the KCDHH website, [www.kcdhh.ky.gov](http://www.kcdhh.ky.gov), or by calling the agency at (502) 573-2604.

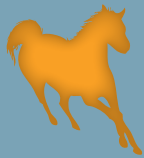


*Laura Kogut captions a meeting of the Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.*



THE **51<sup>ST</sup>**  
BIENNIAL  
**NATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION  
OF THE DEAF**  
CONFERENCE

**WHAT YOU NEED TO SEE  
AT THE CONFERENCE:**

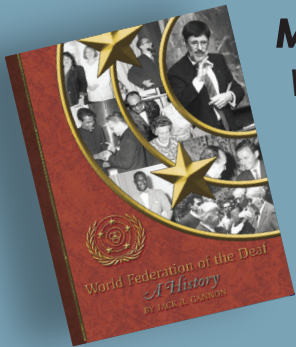


**PARTICIPATE IN WORKSHOPS BY:**

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# UPCOMING EVENTS

## KENTUCKY LIONS YOUTH CAMP FOR DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING CHILDREN

*July 2-6*

Lions Camp Crescendo, Lebanon Junction

Information: Will Mayer, [w.mayer@lions-campcrescendo.org](mailto:w.mayer@lions-campcrescendo.org) or

Christina Turpen, [c.turpen@lions-campcrescendo.org](mailto:c.turpen@lions-campcrescendo.org)

## NAD BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

*July 3-7*

Hyatt Regency Louisville and Kentucky International Convention  
Center, Louisville

Information: [www.nad.org/louisville](http://www.nad.org/louisville)

## DEAFESTIVAL-KENTUCKY

*July 7*

Kentucky International Convention Center, Louisville

Information: [www.deafestival.org](http://www.deafestival.org)

## BLUEGRASS BIKERS TOUR POKER RUN ALONG THE KENTUCKY BOURBON TRAIL

*July 8-10*

Information: Dick Moore, [RideKYCSD@aol.com](mailto:RideKYCSD@aol.com)

## DEAF YOUTH SPORTS FESTIVAL

*July 22-28*

University of Louisville

Information: [TeamMDO@aol.com](mailto:TeamMDO@aol.com)

## MILDRED MIDDLETON'S DEAF PICNIC

### 65TH ANNIVERSARY

*Aug. 12, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.*

Kentucky Dam Village State Park Lake Pavilion, Gilbertsville

For more information on these and other events, please visit the KCDHH Web Bulletin Board at  
<http://www.kcdhh.ky.gov/home/bulletin.html>